FILED

JANUARY 14, 2010 NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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ORDER RESTORING UNRESTRICTED LICENSE

FREDERICK COVILLE, M.D.

This matter was opened before the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") upon the Board's receipt of a renewed petition from respondent Frederick Coville, M.D., for the elimination or modification of terms and conditions that are currently imposed on his practice of medicine in the State of New Jersey by operation of the terms of a Consent Order he entered with the Board on August 28, 2000 (a copy of said Order is appended hereto as Exhibit "A"). The background of this matter, through August 2000, is thoroughly set forth within that Order, and that background discussion is herein incorporated by reference. August 28, 2000 Order reinstated respondent's license to practice, subject to conditions that: 1) he practice only pursuant to a bona fide employment relationship in the office of a licensed physician, with the employer to submit quarterly reports to the Board; 2) that he perform no cosmetic surgery procedures; and 3) that he examine and treat female patients only in the presence of a chaperone.

Following the entry of the Order, respondent did not

resume or otherwise engage in the practice of medicine in New Jersey, as he instead practiced in the British Virgin Islands until early 2006, and then relocated to London, England. Respondent returned to New Jersey, and re-entered medical practice in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Board order, in or about December 2008.

Since resuming practice in New Jersey, Dr. Coville has twice appeared and testified before Committees of the Board. Dr. Coville first appeared before a Committee of the Board on February 25, 2009. Following that appearance, we denied Dr. Coville's petition for modification or elimination of the terms of the August 2000 Order, because at that time he had only practiced for a brief period of time in New Jersey in accordance with the terms and limitations that he had agreed to in August 2000. Dr. Coville was then expressly advised that he would need to practice for a minimum period of six months in New Jersey, under the specific terms of the August 2000 Order, before the Board would further consider his petition.

Dr. Coville appeared before the Board a second time on October 21, 2009. Upon consideration of Dr. Coville's testimony and review of documentation presently available to the Board, we are satisfied that good cause exists to presently remove the terms and conditions that continue to be imposed on Dr. Coville's practice by operation of the August 2000 Order. Since returning to

New Jersey, Dr. Coville has practiced in the employ of Dr. Howard Sperling. Dr. Sperling's reports to the Board suggest that Dr. Coville has at all times acted in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Consent Order. Further, respondent has demonstrated that he has substantially modified both his character and his lifestyle since the time that charges detailing sexual misconduct were initially brought against him some eighteen years ago. Finally, although any medical practice by Dr. Coville was outside of New Jersey from August 2000 to December 2008, there is no information available to the Board that in any way suggests that Dr. Coville engaged in any misconduct or inappropriate behavior during that time period - rather, the documentation before the Board suggests that Dr. Coville earned the respect of medical colleagues with whom he worked in the British Virgin Islands.

The Board being satisfied that good cause presently exists to remove the extant conditions and limitations that remain imposed on Dr. Coville's practice, and that good cause exists to now restore respondent's license without further conditions or limitations,

IT IS on this 14TH day of January, 2010 ORDERED:

The terms and conditions placed on respondent Frederick A. Coville's continued licensure in the State of New Jersey, by operation of the Consent Order that Dr. Coville entered with the

Board on August 28, 2000, are hereby discontinued. Respondent's license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey is, therefore, unrestricted.

NEW JERSEY STATE

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

Paul C. Mendelowitz, M.D.

Board President

FILED

August 28, 2000
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
DOCKET NO.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

FREDERICK COVILLE, M.D.

TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY: IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY:

Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners In July 1992 upon the application of Robert J. Del Tufo, then Attorney General of New Jersey, Brenda Talbot Lewis, Deputy Attorney General, appearing, seeking temporary suspension of

the privileges of respondent to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey. The Attorney General filed a verified complaint seeking suspension or revocation of respondent's license. Respondent, who was represented by Kern, Augustine, Conroy & Schoppmann, agreed to the entry of an Interim Order of Limitations filed on September 11, 1992. Respondent subsequently entered into a Consent Order filed in May 1993 in which his license was suspended for four years, the first three years to be stayed with These restrictions included the requirement that restrictions. respondent practice medicine only pursuant to a bona employment relationship, that he not perform any cosmetic procedures, and that he conduct all examinations or treatments of female patients in the presence of a chaperon. Respondent could practice during the fourth year of suspension only in an approved residency program for plastic and reconstructive surgery.

The matter was reopened before the Board in April/May 1996 when the Board determined that respondent had examined and treated female patients without chaperons, and by Order of May 8, 1994, respondent's suspension was activated for a period of six months, following which respondent resumed practice pursuant to the limitations embodied in the 1993 Order, including the absolute bar on cosmetic surgery.

The matter was reopened once more before the Board in May/June 1996 when respondent requested permission to enter a residency program in internal medicine rather than in cosmetic surgery. The

Attorney General sought instead to preclude his enrollment into any approved residency program for the fourth year of suspension and to impose in its place an active one year period of suspension commencing on June 30, 1996, asserting that he had violated the terms of the original Consent Order by performing cosmetic surgery in the office of another physician. On October 30, 1996, a Consent Order was entered in which respondent agreed to an active suspension until June 30, 1997, agreed to the addition of two years to his period of probation, agreed to pay costs and a penalty, and agreed to take and successfully complete an ethics course. He also agreed to appear before the Preliminary Evaluation Committee of the Board prior to being permitted to resume active practice.

Respondent appeared before the Committee in June 1997, and in October 1997 was offered the opportunity to enter into a Consent Order in which he would be permitted to resume practice. He would be able to practice only in the employment of another physician and only with chaperons, and could not practice cosmetic surgery. Soon after the offer was made respondent took a position in a plastic surgery fellowship at a clinic in the British Virgin Islands, although he had been told in advance that this fellowship would not satisfy the Board's requirement that he take a residency in cosmetic surgery before being allowed to practice in that specialty.

In August 1999 respondent again requested that the Board accept the fellowship in the Virgin Islands in satisfaction of the

requirement that he take a one-year residency in cosmetic surgery. The Board carefully reviewed and considered the information submitted pertaining to the fellowship and denied respondent's request. Respondent therefore requested that he be allowed to enter into a Consent Order embodying the terms offered to him in 1997. The Board has determined that the entry of such an Order would be adequately protective of the public health and welfare, and that good cause exists for the entry of such a Consent Order.

IT IS THEREFORE on this <u>28th</u> day of <u>August</u>, 2000,

ORDERED that respondent Frederick Coville shall be permitted to practice medicine with the following restrictions:

- 1. Respondent shall practice only pursuant to a bona fide employment relationship in the office of a licensed physician;
- 2. Respondent shall be permitted to perform no cosmetic surgery procedures, although he may perform such simple office surgery as suturing wounds, burn care, care of chronic diabetic ulcers, wart removal, removal of lesions, and ligation of hemorrhoids;
- 3. Respondent shall examine and treat female patients only in the presence of a chaperon;
- 4. Respondent must make his employer(s) aware of this consent Order, and shall arrange to have said employer(s) submit a report to the Board every three months confirming his continuing status as an employee and confirming that he is being effectively chaperoned;

- 5. Respondent must notify any hospital where he has privileges of this Consent Order and its terms; and
- 6. Respondent shall pay to the Board the balance of the money which he owes within six months.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Bv:

Gregory J. Rokosz, D.O., J.D.

President

I have read and understood the within Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Board to enter this Order.

Frederick Coville,

Michael J. Schoppmann, Esq.

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NOTICE OF REPORTING PRACTICES OF BOARD REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3(3), all orders of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners are available for public inspection. Should any inquiry be made concerning the status of a licensee, the inquirer will be informed of the existence of the order and a copy will be provided if requested. All evidentiary hearings, proceedings on motions or other applications which are conducted as public hearings and the record, including the transcript and documents marked in evidence, are available for public inspection, upon request.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Subtitle A 60.8, the Board is obligated to report to the National Practitioners Data Bank any action relating to a physician which is based on reasons relating to professional competence or professional conduct:

- (1) Which revokes or suspends (or otherwise restricts) a license,
- (2) Which censures, reprimands or places on probation,
- (3) Under which a license is surrendered.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Section 61.7, the Board is obligated to report to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection (HIP) Data Bank, any formal or official actions, such as revocation or suspension of a license(and the length of any such suspension), reprimand, censure or probation or any other loss of license or the right to apply for, or renew, a license of the provider, supplier, or practitioner, whether by operation of law, voluntary surrender, non-renewability, or otherwise, or any other negative action or finding by such Federal or State agency that is publicly available information.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A.45:9-19.13, if the Board refuses to issue, suspends, revokes or otherwise places conditions on a license or permit, it is obligated to notify each licensed health care facility and health maintenance organization with which a licensee is affiliated and every other board licensee in this state with whom he or she is directly associated in private medical practice.

In accordance with an agreement with the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, a list of all disciplinary orders are provided to that organization on a monthly basis.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear on the public agenda for the next monthly Board meeting and is forwarded to those members of the public requesting a copy. In addition, the same summary will appear in the minutes of that Board meeting, which are also made available to those requesting a copy.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear in a Monthly Disciplinary Action Listing which is made available to those members of the public requesting a copy.

On a periodic basis the Board disseminates to its licensees a newsletter which includes a brief description of all of the orders entered by the Board.

From time to time, the Press Office of the Division of Consumer Affairs may issue releases including the summaries of the content of public orders.

Nothing herein is intended in any way to limit the Board, the Division or the Attorney General from disclosing any public document.